

Berkeley Reads Letters 2012

Fiction

In Caddis Wood: a novel. Rockcastle, Mary Franois. When the onset of a debilitating illness and the discovery of Hallie's cache of letters from another man set Carl reeling, he starts to question not only his previously unshakeable belief in himself but also his faith in Hallie's devotion. With elegance and skill, Rockcastle shows how their shared memories are reflected in the endangered but enduring woods and fields around them."--from cover.

Letters from war: a novel. Schultz, Mark. A mother writes to her missing son in Afghanistan, comforted by the daily ritual.

The wedding letters: a novel. Wright, Jason F. Noah is preparing to marry Rachel, but when a dark secret from Rachel's past surfaces, Noah and his parents, Malcolm and Rain, must find a way to heal Rachel's heart as well as save the wedding. Perhaps a scrapbook of wedding letters filled with good wishes and marriage advice will hold the key the couple needs to find love and happiness.

Dead of winter. Goss, James. In Dr. Bloom's clinic at a remote spot on the Italian coast, at the end of the 18th century, nothing is ever quite what it seems. Maria, a lonely little girl, writes letters to her mother from the isolated resort where she is staying. What she doesn't tell her mother is the truth that everyone knows and no one says - that the only people who come here do so to die.

The Little women Letters. Donnelly, Gabrielle. With her older sister, Emma, planning a wedding and her younger sister, Sophie, preparing to launch a career on the London stage, Lulu can't help but feel like the failure of the Atwater family. When her mother asks her to find a cache of old family recipes in the attic of her childhood home, Lulu stumbles across a collection of letters written by her great-great-grandmother Josephine March. As Lulu delves deeper into the lives and secrets of the March sisters, she finds solace and guidance, but can the words of her great-great-grandmother help Lulu find a place for herself in a world so different from the one Jo knew?

Dorothy: a novel. Watkins, Latoya S. From a prison cell in East Texas, James Ray Campbell serves time for the murder of his daughters. Dying from cancer and seeking absolution from Chocolate, he attempts to reappear in her life through letters and messages from Danni. As the sisters face their pasts, embrace the present, and look forward to their futures; a sibling bond is built, held onto and threatened in a major way.

The proper care and maintenance of friendship. Higgins, Lisa Verge. Three women, unable to confront the problems of their own lives, have in common a friend with a generous soul, an irrepressible spirit--and a serious illness. In her final letters, Rachel raises one question: What makes a friend live in our hearts forever?

The sandalwood tree: a novel. Newmark, Elle. In 1947, an American anthropologist named Martin Mitchell wins a Fulbright Fellowship to study in India. Upon his family's arrival, though, they are forced to stay in a small village due to violence surrounding Britain's imminent departure from India. It is there,

hidden behind a brick wall in their colonial bungalow, that Evie discovers a packet of old letters that tell a strange and compelling story of love and war involving two young Englishwomen who lived in the very same house in 1857.

The silver boat. Rice, Luanne. Three far-flung sisters come home to Martha's Vineyard one last time. Memories of their grandmother, mother, and their Irish father, who sailed away the year Dar turned twelve, rise up and expose the fine cracks in their family myth--especially when a cache of old letters reveals enough truth to send them back to their ancestral homeland.

The color purple. Walker, Alice. The lives of two sisters--Nettie, a missionary in Africa, and Celie, a Southern woman married to a man she hates--are revealed in a series of letters exchanged over thirty years.

I think I love you. Pearson, Allison. In 1970s South Wales, Petra and Sharon live for David Cassidy and take the Ultimate David Cassidy Quiz thinking that David's letters are all his own work. Over two decades later, bruised by grief, Petra is living with her thirteen-year-old daughter and meets the reluctant pop journalist who compiled the quiz.

The Damascus way. Bunn, T. Davis. In this riveting drama of the early church, Jacob, a young caravan guard, delivers messages among the new followers as he learns what it means to be a Christian--and to love and trust the young Greek girl who is neither accepted by the Jews or the Gentiles.

Roy & Lillie: a love story. Estefan, Loren D. For many years Judge Roy Bean, the cantankerous self-styled arbiter of rough frontier justice, wrote fan letters to the beautiful actress Lillie Langtry across the sea; occasionally, she wrote back. After years of this strange but poignant correspondence, Lillie finally kept her promise to visit her distant admirer.

The mailbox: a novel. Whalen, Marybeth. "When Lindsey Adams first visits the Kindred Spirit mailbox at Sunset Beach, North Carolina, as a teenager, she has no idea that twenty years later she will still be visiting the mailbox--still pouring out her heart in letters that summarize the best and worst parts of her life."

Cold earth. Moss, Sarah. A team of six archaeologists from the United States, England, and Scotland stranded in Greenland pens final letters home. Each section of the book is composed of one character's first-person perspective in letter form.

Letters to God. Doughtie, Patrick. Inspired by the major motion picture Letters to God, this novel is for readers eager to read more of this inspiring story. Tyler, a nine-year-old boy, is stricken with incurable brain cancer and begins to write letters to God. This story of hope will help readers from all walks work toward greater understanding of God's presence and care.

A distant melody: a novel. Sundin, Sarah. : Walt and Allie meet at a wedding and their love of music draws them together, prompting them to begin a correspondence that will change their lives. As letters fly between Walt's muddy bomber base in England and Allie's mansion in an orange grove, their

friendship binds them together. But can they untangle the secrets, commitments, and expectations that keep them apart?

Angelology. Trussoni, Danielle. When twenty-three-year-old Sister Evangeline accidentally stumbles upon some mysterious letters exchanged between the late mother superior of her convent and the famous philanthropist Abigail Rockefeller, she is thrust into an ancient conflict between the Society of Angelologists and the monstrously beautiful descendants of angels and humans, the Nephilim.

The sorcerer's house. Wolfe, Gene. In a novel told entirely through a series of letters, a man inherits a sorcerer's house and is immediately confronted by supernatural and fantastical creatures and events that utterly transform his life.

Homeland: a novel. Hambly, Barbara. "As brother turns against brother in the bloodbath of the Civil War, two young women sacrifice everything but their friendship. Through letters the two women exchange, they speak of the ordeal of a familiar world torn apart by tragedy. And yet their unique friendship will help mend the fabric of a ravaged nation."

A blue and gray Christmas. Medlicott, Joan A. After being moved by the letters of two Civil War soldiers--one Union and the other Confederate--Grace, Hannah, and Amelia track down the soldiers' descendants and invite them to a Christmas reunion in Covington, where the letters will serve as holiday gifts.

Paper roses: a novel. Cabot, Amanda. "Her future stretched out like the clear blue Texas sky. But a storm is coming. Leaving the past behind in Philadelphia, mail-order bride Sarah Dobbs arrives in San Antonio ready to greet her groom - a man she has never met but whose letters, her paper roses, have won her heart from afar. "--Back cover.

The lost quilter: an Elm Creek quilts novel. Chiaverini, Jennifer. Master quilter Sylvia Compson discovers a stash of letters in the attic of Elm Creek Manor and traces a tale back to 1859. An escaped slave, Joanna, spent a brief period at Elm Creek Farm until she was captured and returned to bondage, leaving her son in the care of the Bergstrom family.

Tribute. Roberts, Nora. Working to restore a family farmhouse, Cilla McGowan remembers her grandmother's fatal overdose years earlier before meeting a handsome neighbor and discovering a cache of letters that suggests her grandmother had been pregnant at the time of her death.

The letters. Rice, Luanne. Sam and Hadley West are both trying in their own ways to survive after the unthinkable loss of their only son in Alaska. Now, at opposite ends of the country, waiting for their divorce to be finalized, they begin to exchange letters by post, missives filled with longing and truths they've never before voiced, as they recall their marriage--its magic moments and its challenges--and begin to rediscover the reasons they fell in love in the first place.--From publisher description.

Things I want my daughters to know. Noble, Elizabeth. Having received letters and a journal from their mother written at the end of her life, four sisters struggle through their first year without her, a time marked by their bereavement and efforts to achieve joy and passion.

The Wednesday letters: a novel. Wright, Jason F. Jack and Laurel have been married for 39 years. They've lived a good life and appear to have had the perfect marriage. With his wife cradled in his arms, and before Jack takes his last breath, he scribbles his last "Wednesday Letter." When their adult children arrive to arrange the funeral, they discover boxes and boxes full of love letters that their father wrote to their mother each week on Wednesday. The Wednesday Letters has a powerful message about

March: a novel. Brooks, Geraldine. In a story inspired by the father character in "Little Women" and drawn from the journals and letters of Louisa May Alcott's father, a man leaves behind his family to serve in the Civil War and finds his beliefs challenged by his experiences.

The historian: a novel. Kostova, Elizabeth. Discovering a medieval book and a cache of letters, a motherless American girl becomes the latest in a series of historians, including her late father, who investigate the possible surviving legacy of Vlad the Impaler.

Sam's letters to Jennifer: a novel. Patterson, James. Jennifer returns to the resort village where she grew up to help her ailing, beloved grandmother--and ends up experiencing not one but two of the most amazing love stories she's ever known.

Jane Eyre. Bronte, Charlotte. 1st New York Public Library collector's ed. Illustrated with handwritten letters, diaries, manuscripts, and original art from the collections of the New York Public Library.

The golden mean: in which the extraordinary correspondence of Griffin & Sabine concludes. Bantock, Nick. Story told in strangely beautiful postcards and richly decorated letters that must be actually removed from their envelopes to be read.

Sabine's notebook: in which the extraordinary correspondence of Griffin & Sabine continues. Bantock, Nick. Story told in strangely beautiful postcards and richly decorated letters that must actually be removed from their envelopes to be read.

Griffin & Sabine: an extraordinary correspondence. Bantock, Nick. Imaginary letters.